

Insight in the Hallucinated [*La Croyance de l'halluciné*]. (*Ann. Méd.-Psych.*, June, 1932.) Ey, H.

The writer, who regards the essential feature of the hallucination, isolating it from the illusion, paræsthesia, and hallucinosis, to be a belief in the perception of a non-existent object, brings forward evidence refuting Quercy's mechanistic hypothesis. It is pointed out that the latter's theory concerning the relationship between morbid sensory stimuli and hallucination offers no explanation as to why loss of insight occurs; it is also shown that subjective sensory experiences are neither sufficient nor even necessary to produce false objectivation.

S. M. COLEMAN.

A Contribution to the Study of Chronic Hallucinatory Psychosis [*Contributo allo studio della psicosi allucinatoria cronica*]. (*Riv. Sper. di Freniat.*, vol. lv, September, 1931.) Berlucchi, C.

The author describes four cases of chronic hallucinatory psychosis, the concept of which we owe largely to de Clérambault. He considers that the ideas of reference and influence found are based primarily on a disturbance of the personality, and in particular of the intelligence, and that the condition should be included within the schizophrenic group of disorders. The hallucinations arise in association with a delirium which is occasionally due to over-indulgence in alcohol.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Conception of Paranoia During the Nineteenth Century [*Conceito da paranoia através do seculo XIX*]. (*Revista da Assoc. Paulista de Med.*, April, 1932.) Da Rocha, F.

The varying and widely differing connotations in which the term "paranoia" has been used are reviewed. Special consideration is given to the idea of paranoia which was popular under the influence of Lombroso's "anatomical" view of the criminal; the author believes that Freud's conceptions bear a close resemblance to those of this school. On the whole, the British view of the matter is regarded as most worthy of commendation. The antecedents of paranoia are to be found in parental alcoholism and hysteria and other hereditary diseases, as well as in certain affections of the individual patient during the period of development of the principal nervous centres. Congenital syphilis may be a cause of paranoia, as well as of other forms of degeneration. The conclusion, however, is that "we know the facts of degeneration, for we observe them every day; but we do not know the processes through which they realize themselves".

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Body Interest in Children and Hypochondriasis. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xii, September, 1932.) Levy, D. M.

The various sources of experiences adapted to the development of such symptomatology are (1) exposure in early life to numerous complaints of illnesses, invalidism, or death. (2) Actual experience of frequent illness, operations, or contacts with physicians. (3) Strong identification with an ailing person or one who exaggerates body sensations, so that the sick *milieu* becomes one's own sensations. (4) Exaggerated response to pleasurable body sensations, through reinforcement of erogenous zones. This is specially marked

when there has been long confinement to bed. (5) Social situations in which actual illness or deformity is utilized for the purpose of gaining love or attention, or of avoiding unpleasant situations.
M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Tactual Perception in Alcoholism. (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, vol. xviii, July, 1932.) Bromberg, W.

In a group of sixteen patients with alcoholic psychosis definite changes were found in sensation. These changes are due to organic processes going on in the peripheral or cerebral vestibular and tactual apparatus. The duration of the after-effects was prolonged, and was probably related to the direct effect of the alcoholic cerebral intoxication. One of the most marked observations was the feeling of movement, especially of rapid movement, in the after-effects; often there was a rapid diminution in the size of the objects seen and felt. The patients often felt numerous drops or particles on the skin and thought that they were somehow connected with water. All the movement tendencies are to be considered as products of disintegration of tactual sensation—this is probably due to vestibular influences.

In a comparative group of ten schizophrenic patients the duration of the tactual phenomenon was on the average slightly less than in normal subjects.

Schizophrenic hallucinations had a different mechanism from those of alcoholism. Bevinger has found an analogy between the reactions of normal exhausted persons and those with schizophrenia. Cross-points and angles in geometric figures were noticeably present in the after-images in patients in the schizophrenic group. Wavy lines were observed, extending into the air or horizontally with the rising phase of the waved line corresponding to bars crossed by the experimenter's finger.
G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

A Clinical Study of Psychoses Associated with Various Types of Endocrinopathy. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xii, September, 1932.) Notkin, J.

Only 8 such cases were found in a hospital population of 6,000 patients. This infrequency seems to indicate that the relationship of endocrine dysfunction to mental disorders has been much overrated. The great stress which was put upon disturbances in the calcium and the lipin metabolism, and offered as an ætiological factor in mental disorders, does not seem to be justified; the deviations found in this study were minimal. No direct ætiological relationship between endocrine dysfunction and psychosis was found, except in the cases of three hebephrenics where a constitutional anomaly led to both physical and mental aberrations.
M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Psychosis: Its Importance as a Presenting Symptom of Brain Tumour. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xii, September, 1932.) Adelstein, L. J., and Carter, M. G.

Psychosis may be the first presenting symptom in brain tumour; and in every case of psychosis the possibility of tumour should be ruled out by neurological examination. Auditory hallucinations are of localizing value if separate and distinctly apart from a psychosis. The most marked mental changes were found in cases of tumours involving the frontal lobes and the corpus callosum.
M. HAMBLIN SMITH.